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REPORT
REPORT

OF THE

SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN

FOR THE

TOWN OF MEREDITH,
TOWN OF MEREDITH,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1ST, 1853.

MEREDITH BRIDGE, N. H.:

BALDWIN & FARRINGTON, Printers--Democrat Office.
1853.

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OF

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THE

TOWN OF MERRIDITH

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THE

MERRIDITH BRIDGE

BALDWIN & FARRINGTON, Printers—Dunsmuir Bldg.

1898

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

The Selectmen charge themselves with the following items, viz :

Collector's List reported by Auditors, March, 1852,	1517,62
Assessment of State Tax,	590,80
" County Tax,	708,95
" School " ,	1022,80
" Literary Institute,	30,38
" Town " ,	3030,12
Literary Fund received June, 1852,	167,00
Cash received of County,	379,87
" State for R. Road Tax,	401,14
" License for Showmen,	30,00
" N. Robinson, Town Agent,	78,00
" James Bell for Messer Bridge,	50,00
" Isaac Knowles,	40,00
" for timber sold from Farm,	200,00
	<hr/> \$8246,68

Which is accounted for as follows :

Paid for the Poor, the past Year.

Paid J. V. Barron, store bill per voucher,	\$100,00
Waldo Meloon for Mrs. Meloon, county pauper,	38,00
Crosley Smith for Widow Senter,	35,50
" " deceased,	30,00
John Dockham for Widow Clough,	10,00
John Paine for Widow Lovejoy,	67,00
" " 1851,	55,00
Lang & Stevens, necessaries, for widow Lovejoy,	3,68
John V. Barron, " per voucher,	17,27
John Sanborn for doctoring H. Moulton child, Gilmanton pauper,	5,62
J. M. & C. S. Prescott, for boots, shoes, &c.,	11,74
City Manchester for Foss child, legal services,	4,75
" " " " ,	16,00
" " " " Doctor's bill,	9,50
John Sanborn for pauper belonging to Ossipee,	3,00
J. V. Barron, for necessaries for farm,	30,00
Selectmen of Hooksett for Kelley child,	19,50
A Bickford on account of Sally Cotton, 1851,	8,25
John Sanborn for doctoring N. Whittier, county pauper,	20,00
S. W. Taylor as per voucher,	29,00
Jona. Quimby for Susan Dockham,	39,00
Richard Furber for cow, (beef for farm,)	21,00

Paid Lang & Stevens for Simon Pottle, 1851,	\$29,92
Benja. Fallins, as per voucher,	2,00
C. C. Tibbets for doctoring paupers, 1851,	8,00
James H. Plumer for John Quimby, Gilford,	16,00
C. C. Tibbets for doctoring Joel Dockham's wife, Gilford,	9,33
Isaac Knowles for balance of account,	,82
Olive J. Knowles, bill due from Sandwich,	1,75
Little & Osgood, on account of paupers,	3,00
Samuel M. Doe, for wood for Mrs. Tilton,	1,37
Asa Ladd, on account of S. Swain,	2,00
Garland & Ayer for doctoring county paupers,	25,00
Town of Gilmanton on account of L. Farrar,	7,80
Wm. Clifford for necessities furnished paupers,	6,00
Ephraim Mallard for 2 coffins, &c. for paupers,	10,00
John S. Morgan for wood for Sally Watson,	3,50
C. C. Tibbets for doctoring Joel Dockham's wife, Gilford,	15,00
A. L. Morrison, for necessities furnished paupers,	1,50
Wm. Leach for medical attendance and surgical operation on Dolloff girl, also doctoring Irishman,	20,33
Wm. Burnham for surgical operation on Dolloff girl,	25,00
H. Bedee on account of S. Morse, 1846,	1,00
John Crockett for wood for widow Tilton.	12,00
Samuel Mudget, on account, paupers, (County,)	1,25
Mary Gilman, on account, of county pauper,	8,00
Alfred A. Piper, for Simeon Swain,	,28
Charles Bedee, on account, S. Swain,	3,00
Oliver Goss, for doctoring paupers,	15,75
A. I. Tay. for S. Swain,	,50
C. W. & R. K. Parker, for county pauper, Mrs. Rowen,	24,00
Plumer & Smith, for J. Dolloff girl,	2,24
S. Hatch. on account of R. Willey, county pauper,	,50
Chase & Robinson, house rent for D. S. Piper,	10,00
S. C. Mooney, for doctoring D. S. Piper family,	3,50
D. C. Robinson, for J. Dolloff girl,	3,05
Mark Davis, for John Duros, county pauper,	33,00
Cole Davis & Co., for Mrs. Rose, county pauper,	11,68
A. Doe, cash paid D. Clough, county pauper,	1,50
Cole Davis & Co., house rent for S. Taylor.	13,00
A. Doe, cash paid Michael Collins, county pauper,	19,25
" " on account of pauper,	1,00
" " Chas. Hacket, for county pauper,	8,00
" " S. W. Taylor,	8,00
" " on account of Michael Collins, county pauper,	6,00
" " for Mrs. Straw, due from Sandwich,	1,00
" " Mrs. Rose, county pauper,	1,50
A. A. Moulton, doctoring M. Cummings, New Hampton pauper,	12,25
" " Bickford boy, Alton pauper,	6,00
" " county pauper,	2,00
" " for doctoring Quimby girl, Sanbornton pauper,	2,25
" " R. Willey, county pauper,	1,25
" " for doctoring Mrs. Rowe,	,75
" " Betsey Macrillis,	1,25

Paid A. A. Moulton for doctoring Paul H. Stanton,	5.00
Taylor L. Grant, for beef for farm,	12.00
J. S. Neal, for shirts and cap for S. Dockham,	1.00
A. Doe, for Thomas Chattle,	4.00
J. S. Neal, cash paid county pauper,	1.00
Daniel Hilton for two Coffins,	8.25
John Sanborn, for doctoring paupers,	44.
J. S. Hart, for use of sleigh at the farm	1.00
A. A. Moulton doctoring S. W. Taylor.	1.00
C. O. Osgood, on account of county pauper,	9.85
Moses G. Plumer, for H. Merrill, county pauper,	8.07
Sanborn & Bedee, for necessities for poor,	1.38
J. V. Barron, for goods, for the farm 1851,	29.37
John Haines, for repairing waggon &c. 1851,	9.97
Taylor L. Gatant, for county pauper,	8.00
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	1121.07

Paid for Roads and Bridges.

Paid Pray & Furnal, for ironing bridge,	\$5.17
Daniel Corliss, for labor on road,	4.20
Joseph Drew, do do	34.60
George W. Gilman, for breaking roads 1851,	3.50
Daniel G. Smith, for plank 1851,	10.16
Thomas H. Holland, for plank,	7.14
Chase Fogg, for breaking road 1851,	13.16
J. P. F. Smith, for plank and timber,	50.48
Wm. Pike, witness on Russell Road case,	1.00
Jeremiah Smith, do do do do	2.00
For building new road leading to Stephen G. & John F. Wad-	
leigh's agreeable to a vote of the town,	50.62
John Fernald, for labor on bridge and road,	3.00
Levi Towle, for breaking road 1851.	3.00
John V. Barron, iron for bridge, and powder,	7.99
Lewis Clock, for labor on Mad river road,	1.80
David Blaisdell, for labor powder and fuze,	2.17
A. Doe, for labor,	3.00
Henry Bean, for labor,	1.80
Jacob Smith, for labor,	1.80
Isaac Farrar, for labor,	7.64
Mark Davis, for breaking road 1851,	1.00
A.L. Morrison, for powder,	1.70
Levi G. Folsom, for labor on Messer Bridge,	78.14
Cole Davis & Co., on account Messer Bridge,	47.86
J. B. Swain, for plank,	12.80
James S. Hoit, for labor, on Messer Bridge,	110.79
Ebenezer S. Cate, for labor on Gordon Road,	31.50
do do do do do do	1.50
Charles Smith, for breaking road 1851,	4.06
Sanborn Roberts, do do	2.00

Paid Simeon Cate, for breaking road 1851.	2,35
B. S. Tuttle, do do	2,00
Petitioners for Gordon Road by vote of town.	44,50
H. M. Swain, for labor on Fogg Road, (so called)	43,00
Simeon D. Pease, for labor on Pike Road,	13,75
Jno. S. Dolloff, for labor on Dolloff Road,	7,25
F. L. Grant, for labor on Jas. Plummer Road,	11,50
James C. Wadleigh, for labor on Turnpike Road,	36,75
W. Smith, for guide boards,	2,00
Abel B. Eastman, for land damage for road, laid out 1851,	151,00
Moses Plumer, for making new road,	29,76
John L. Flanders, for land damage,	80,00
Jacob T. Burleigh, for land damage,	72,50
John Rundlett, for breaking roads 1851,	3,62
Road Commissioners services on Russell Road,	26,80
James C. Wadleigh, for making B. F. Plumer new road,	151,00
Abel B. Eastman, for guide boards,	2,25
David P. Hatch, for breaking road 1851,	2,00
Samuel Sanborn, for breaking road, 1851,	8,45
David Edgerly, for plank,	7,30
Smith Swain, for plank,	4,05
B. F. Plumer, for breaking roads 1851,	2,15
John Russell, for boarding selectmen,	2,00
E. B. Lawrence, for repairing causeway,	3,00
Wm. M. Edgerly, for plank,	,57
Amos Dolloff, for covering stone,	,75
Peter Severance, for guide boards,	3,52
J. S. Whittier, for guide board,	1,25
Wm. M. Edgerly, for breaking plough on road damage,	1,50
S. A. Ladd, for plank and timoer 1850,	5,90
B. Leavitt, for plank,	,50
	<u>\$1328,55</u>

Expenditures.

Paid John Wadleigh for attendance to Court and Constable,	\$3,00
B. F. Plumer for surveying in 1851,	2,00
D. B. Plumer for measuring timber, &c.,	1,50
Gideon Piper for interest,	18,00
H. Marstin for assessment on pew in meeting house,	7,00
B. F. Plumer for surveying,	1,50
Baldwin & Farrington for printing reports, check list, &c.	25,00
Bradstreet Wiggin, damage in breaking wagon,	3,00
Insurance company assessments,	13,68
Hanson Bedee abatement of taxes, 1846,	25,76
John K. Young, proportion parsonage interest,	14,25
John C. Fox, for boarding selectmen 1851,	2,09
John Wiggin, for parsonage interest 1851,	7,79
Baldwin & Farrington, for advertising in relation to road,	2,25
David Blaisdell, for taking care of town house &c.,	4,92
John Webster, for parsonage interest,	4,40

C. O. Osgood, for boarding selectmen,	22,62
J. Webster, for enrolling militia,	3,50
Gideon Piper, for services as auditor 1851,	2,00
Richard Davis, interest on note,	12,00
Taylor L. Grant, for cash paid expenses,	1,25
George Swain, parsonage interest 1851,	14,00
John M. Eaton, for enrolling militia,	3,00
Giles Leach, for teachers institute,	30,38
Joseph E. Robinson, constable fees,	2,00
Thomas H. Holland, for services 1851,	1,00
B. F. Wiggin, services as constable,	2,00
E. Young, for boarding selectmen and committee,	3,25
S. Sanders, for school money 1851 not rendered,	18,51
Daniel Smith, for parsonage interest,	14,79
Joseph S. Neal, cash paid for horse hire,	10,00
do do do do 1851,	3,30
do do do at sundry times expenses per voucher,	12,74
do do do for postage, stationery &c.,	3,59
do do do for boarding selectmen,	26,00
Joseph Ela, for cash over paid on his collection,	15,97
Joseph S. Neal, for cash paid railroad fare,	15,40
Joseph Ela, for abatement of taxes 1848,	47,85
do do do do 1847,	15,19
do do do do 1838,	17,89
do do services as collector 1847,	21,92
do do do do 1848,	33,93
J. S. Hart, Parsonage interest, 1851,	4,00
J. S. Neal for taxes on J. P. Cram,	1,81
Second Baptist Society parsonage interest,	11,75
Bartlett Hill, list of abatements, 1850,	81,57
Stephen W. Mead, services as committee on collector's bonds,	6,16
Jacob S. Burley, list of abatements allowed, 1851,	35,99
Taylor L. Grant, " " " 1850,	1,44
Samuel L. Lawrence, list of abatements 1851,	8,05
do do for collection,	14,39
Jacob S. Burley, for collection,	11,57
B. Leavitt, for Parsonage interest,	1,60
David B. Plumer, on account of Militia, 1851	5,00
do do services as selectman,	3,00
do do balance due as selectman,	72,95
Warren Lovell for answering to the Runnels road case in court &c.,	8,00
John C. Moulton, for blank books and stationery, for town clerk and selectmen,	8,81
Isaac Farrar, for boarding selectmen, collectors &c.,	8,75
Ebenr. S. Cate, for abatement of taxes 1851,	104,06
Gilman Smith, for boarding selectmen, and auditors 1851,	4,09
Ebenezer S. Cate, for services as collector 1851,	54,30
Freeman S. Pitman, list of abatements 1848,	2,06
Giles Leach, for services as Superintending School committee,	20,00
do do for parsonage interest,	8,00
J. S. Neal, for list of abatement taxes 1849,	16,19
J. S. Neal, for Collection 1849,	2,84

Samuel Lawrence, tax on town farm,	10,17
J. S. Neal, list of abatements 1850,	27,46
J. S. Neal, collection in full,	2,67
J. S. Neal, for list of abatements 1851,	74,02
J. S. Neal, collection in full,	31,58
Bartlett Hill, error in casting collectors act.,	4,29
Paid A. Cram abatement of taxes,	33,73
A. Cram for collection,	28,79
J. S. Neal for superintending the building the Wadleigh road,	6,00
do do for going to Manchester on account of paupers,	3,00
Isaac Knowles note and interest,	42,29
do do services on poor farm,	175,00
Augustus Doe for services as Selectman 1852,	75,00
do do balance due in 1851,	5,00
Joseph S. Neal for balance due 1851,	8,00
do services to Concord to adjust Rail Road stock for town,	2,00
Taylor L. Grant for services as Selectman 1852,	59,75
do do services as Selectman on account of roads,	8,00
do do horse &c.,	1,64
do do stationery, blank books &c.,	3,87
Augustus Doe, for services as treasurer,	8,00
do do cash expenses while on town business,	3,75
do do do railroad fare,	2,00
J. S. Neal services in going to Manchester, and Hookset on account of paupers,	3,50
do do Services as selectman 1852,	127,50
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	\$1884,93

Recapitulation.

Paid on account of Schools	\$1425,31
" " Roads and Bridges,	1328,55
" " Poor,	1121,07
" " Town Expenses,	1884,93
" " State Tax,	590,80
" " County Tax,	708,95
" " Collector's list on hand,	761,17
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	\$7820,78
Amount the Selectmen charge themselves with,	\$8246,68
Balance in the hands of the Treasurer,	425,90
	<hr/>
	\$8246,68

Respectfully submitted,

AUGUSTUS DOE,

TAYLOR L. GRANT,

JOSEPH S. NEAL,

} Selectmen
of
Meredith.

The undersigned having examined the foregoing accounts of the Selectmen, find them correctly cast and well vouched,

AMOS CRAM, Auditor,

Liabilities of the Town.

Due David Plumer,	318,00
“ Ira Woodman,	106,00
“ Richard Davis,	200,00
“ Gideon Piper,	300,00

The following items are due the town:—

Due from County,	150,38
“ J. H. & J. S. Moulton,	90,00
“ E. Pike,	90,00

\$330,38

On Collectors Lists,	761,17
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\$1091,55

Overseers Report of Affairs at the Alms House.

INVOICE OF PROPERTY.

2 oxen,	\$125,00	53 lbs. butter,	8,83
3 cows,	61,00	100 lbs. lard,	11,00
1 3 yrs. old heifer,	20,00	Apple sauce and barrel,	3,67
3 1 yr. old heifers,	24,00	33 lbs. tallow,	3,96
3 shoats,	40,00	140 lbs. dried apples,	7,00
5 1-2 tons hay,	76,00	30 doz. candles,	4,20
40 bush. corn,	40,00	8 bbls. cider,	10,00
6 1-2 bush. rye,	6,50	Soap and tubs,	6,50
32 bush. oats,	16,00	Grass seed,	,50
6 bush. beans,	9,00	Vinegar and bbl.,	1,50
2 bush. peas,	3,00	55 cords wood,	55,00
Salt,	,25	Lumber at house and mill,	71,00
Flour and meal,	4,25	3 bbls. apples,	3,00
2 1-2 bush. flax seed,	3,75	1-2 bbl. pickles,	1,50
550 lbs. salt pork,	55,00		
425 “ “ beef,	21,25		748,70
115 “ ham,	14,37	Amount of Farming Tools,	
82 “ cheese,	6,50	Beds, Bedding, Clothing,	
20 “ sausages,	2,50	Furniture, &c.	646,36
80 bush. potatoes,	26,67		
Garden sauce,	5,00		\$1395,06

The Overseers of the Poor find the property at the Alms House, March 1st, 1852 to have been appraised at

1410,94

Due from the county,

142,00

1552,94

The amount at the Alms House, March 1st, 1853,

1395,06

Due from the County,

150,38

Due for horse sold,

85,00

\$1630,44

77,50

Amount paid Superintendent, March 1, 1853,	175,00	
Interest on purchase money,	99,00	
Paid for necessities at the Alms House,	184,35	
		<hr/> \$458,35
Received from the County for support of paupers on Town Farm,		143,00
		<hr/> \$315,35
Deduct the balance above,		77,50
		<hr/> \$237,85

AUGUSTUS DOE,
TAYLOR L. GRANT, } Overseers
JOSEPH S. NAEL, } of the Poor.

Names and ages of Persons at the Alms House, and who have their support therefrom.

Males,				
Stephen Boardman,	70	Hannah Smith,		62
Caleb Swain,	64	Rhoda Farrar,		55
John Haven,	62	Olive Hill,		43
John Tilton,	63	Sally Cotton,		42
David Clough,	46	Harriet Shepherd,		43
		Harriet Merrill,		23
Females,		Child of Harriet Merrill,		1
Lydia Griffin,	79	Died the past year, Sally Rowe,		
Susan Edgerly,	62	Robert Willey.		

The following is a list of the names of those whose taxes have been abated in 1852.

Thomas Welch,	1,44	Daniel Darling,	1,73
David Tilton,	1,44	John K. Clough,	1,44
James Tuttle,	1,44	Jona. P. Cram,	3,84
Oscar G. Swasey,	1,44	Pierce H. Bryant,	1,44
John Staple,	1,44	Stephen York,	1,44
H. C. Shaw,	1,44	George M. Burley,	1,44
Joseph Prescott,	1,53	Stephen Maloon,	1,44
Stephen Lovejoy,	1,44	George Dockham,	1,44
L. C. Libby,	1,44	Mary Gilman,	1,01
Josiah P. Leavitt,	1,44	Francis Hall,	1,44
Solomon Kelley,	1,44	Paul H. Stanton,	,92
A. W. Farrar,	1,44	Joseph B. Swain,	1,44
Benjamin Folsom,	2,15	Lane Plumer,	1,80
John S. Dockham,	1,44		

Due on Collectors List March, 1853.

Enoch Currier, year 1838	7,03	Sam'l L. Lawrence, 1852,	34,66
George W. Smith, year 1842	6,47	Amos Cram, 1852,	60,95
Bartlett Hill, 1850,	129,33	Ebenezer S. Cate, 1852,	492,62
Joseph S. Neal, 1849,	3,59		
" " 1851,	26,52		<hr/> \$761 17

REPORT

Of the Superintending School Committee, for the Town of Meredith
for the year ending March, 1853.

The Superintending School Committee, as required by law, respectfully submit their Annual Report upon the Common Schools of this town.

Ours is confessedly a day of progress. The inventions and discoveries of this age are sending blessings over our land and around the globe. But no invention or discovery since the christian era, is so important in its consequences, as the establishment of an institution for educating the *entire* rising generation. And such is the Common school system of New England. Its object is to educate the masses. It is a system of *Free Schools*; and as the rain from the clouds and the light of heaven are no "respecters of persons" so they send their blessings upon all. They are alike open to the poor and the rich; and are the glory of New England and the boast of the world; so that the *school-houses* as well as the *spire* proclaim the secret of our exalted position in every thing that ennobles and blesses the human race. And if our schools so imperfect are accomplishing so much, what may we not expect when our system of popular education shall be more fully developed and perfected.

Your Committee have in the discharge of their duties, during the year, attended four public examinations of Teachers; we have made about seventy visits to the Schools; we have held a few district and neighborhood meetings with the design of awakening and deepening an interest in Common Schools. We have also attended to an examination of school-books and recommended such as we deem the best. We are happy to say however, that scarcely any change has been deemed advisable, in our list of books, and we think that for several years to come very few changes will be thought necessary.

Our Schools like most other things have their "lights and shadows"—their dark and "sunny side." And in this Report we can speak of some things that meet our hearty approval; and of others of an opposite character, and which demand the immediate and earnest attention of the

friends of primary education. Nor should we neglect to speak of them until our schools are such as they should be; and their highest benefits shall extend to every "nook and corner" of our town.

We are happy to report that a considerable number of the districts, by furnishing board and fuel or otherwise, have lengthened the school. This certainly indicates an interest in popular education; and is honorable to those small districts who have done it.

Another thing we are happy to report, and which deserves a special notice is, that the schools the past year have been unusually quiet and harmonious. We are gratified to be able to say that the Committee have not been "summoned," as in some past years, to one part of the town and another, in consequence of the insubordination of pupils, or the dissatisfaction of parents and pupils with Teachers. The government, as a whole, we think has been better than usual; and the confidence and satisfaction of parents and scholars in Teachers, has not often been greater.

We think too a somewhat larger number of Teachers than usual brought to their work more than ordinary qualifications for their office. We found indeed different degrees of merit, and in a very few cases decided incompetency. There were others still somewhat successful, and yet were less so than we could have desired. Yet some were excellent. We hardly know how they could have been better. And we attribute the higher qualifications of some, in no small degree, to the very successful Teachers' Institute held in our town last November. A majority of our Teachers of the winter schools were in attendance. We regretted that a still larger number were not there.

But there are other things of a different character of which we must not fail to speak. And surely an examination of the Registers proclaims, in no doubtful language, that much remains to be done.

The number of tardinesses and especially the number of absences show that very many pupils lose much of the benefits of the school. Do parents discharge their duty in this matter? Are not children often detained at home for the veriest trifle? The school is interrupted by the late arrival of scholars. The tardy or absent scholar sustains a loss. He must pass over some lessons entirely, or getting them only superficially, to keep with his class. And that unprepared lesson may contain some thing indispensable to the understanding of what follows. Or if the delinquent does not pass over some lesson to keep with his class, the class must be detained until he has "come up" with them. So that in whatever aspect we view the matter, it is bad; and should receive the early attention of parents, and a remedy be applied.

An examination of the Registers assures us also that very many Prudential Committees never visit the school, and that scarcely a parent in most districts, and in several not one are reported as having been into either the summer or winter school. We are somewhat surprised to find, in the respective columns, so many blanks. We believe such visits of Prudential Committees and citizens generally, fitted more than almost any thing else to awaken and deepen an interest in Common Schools. This is one of the duties that cannot be delegated to others. The Superintending School Committee may visit the schools; and the minister of religion may regard it in harmony with the work in which he is engaged to favor popular education by visits to the schools; but parents and citizens generally should not fail to be there. Scarcely any thing beside will awaken equal interest. And until they do it, the schools will not fully accomplish their high mission.

We must still labor to raise the qualifications of Teachers. Some are perhaps fully competent. Others are in a degree; and by availing themselves of the annual County Institute may become excellent Teachers.—Our Academies are doing an excellent work in respect to intellectual qualifications. Nor would we conceal the fact that, in our belief, in many of our higher Seminaries of learning very good suggestions are made to the class of Teachers. Yet so numerous are the studies pursued, and so many are the subjects engaging the attention of those who have the charge of those Seminaries, that particular attention cannot often be given to the instruction of Teachers in respect to teaching. We must then at present depend very much upon Teachers' Institutes for good instructors. And surely a well conducted Institute will very much assist the Teacher in preparation for his work.

In former Reports your attention has been invited to the importance of model School-houses. We regret to say that there is but little progress in securing them. With a very few exceptions the school-houses of our town are too small; poorly constructed, and badly located; in or too near the highway and consequently exposed to noise and dust. They are in a large majority of cases the most uninviting buildings in the district, and seem to have been erected with particular reference to the smallest expense of material and labor.

The dwelling house which the children generally leave for the school has the appearance of taste and neatness, and is painted within and without, and has its front yard. And there verdure, trees, are shrubbery and flowers seen all around that delightful home. But the location, the architecture, and almost every thing pertaining to the school-house, are in most cases, uninviting if not repulsive. And verdure, and ornamental trees, and flowers are scarcely seen about them more than in the desert of Sahara.

And within, the most of our school-houses are poorly provided with black-boards; but maps, a clock, thermometer and other apparatus and fixtures, so desirable in the school-room, are to be found in scarcely one of them.

We need not prove that the school-house has something to do in creating a love for the school or its opposite. It has something to do in moulding the minds of the young. If there is taste and architectural beauty and convenience; if the location and scenery around are inviting; all this will exert an elevating influence on the children and youth connected with the schools.

We are surprised that the citizens of our town should suffer such school-houses to remain. Most are ready to acknowledge that a neat well ventilated and attractive house is desirable. And yet while almost every other building, even the stable and sheep-fold have been improved; as you pass over our town you see still the same old dilapidated school-house; unchanged except by wind and storm, and time.

The citizens of every district should feel that their reputation is concerned in this matter. And they should have a house that will be an emblem of their intelligence, and taste, and refinement.

There is one other point which we wish to press upon the attention of the citizens of the town. *It is the importance of an increased appropriation for Common Schools.* If we expect better teachers we must give them better wages. We must pay them as much as they can receive in other employments. Give them higher wages, and we can demand higher qualifications. And if we would have longer schools too, we must appropriate more money for the object.

And we wish to propound the inquiry to the good people of Meredith, whether the system of Common Schools is of sufficient importance to justify a larger appropriation to sustain it.

Surely the influence of the school is very *powerful and lasting*. It exerts a vast power in forming the character. It gives direction in no small degree, to the entire future life. The days of the child may be prolonged late; and the sea of life may be rough and boisterous, but the influence of the primary school will not be lost on that voyage. In the morning, at noon, and in the evening of life, there will be the impress of the Teacher and the school-house of his early days.

Universal education also tends to promote virtue and prevent crime.—Facts proclaim it. And as a matter of economy, it is cheaper to sustain schools than to support crime.

Besides, it is almost universally the ignorant and uneducated who are engaged in mobs by which the property and quiet of a community are dis-

turbed. All in New England owe very much of their peaceful and happy homes to the education of the entire rising generation.

A Republic cannot long survive universal education. It is indispensable to self government to educate the *whole* people. Accordingly it has been said a thousand times that virtue and *intelligence* are the pillars of our Republic.

It is scarcely possible then to place too high an estimate upon popular education. It costs considerable, in the aggregate, to build school-houses and sustain schools. But what investment affords a larger per centage.—Are our *Free Institutions* of little importance? and are the quiet homes and relief from anxiety that exists where the masses are uneducated and mobs and depredations are so common among the ignorant of small importance? And who are not benefitted by our system of Common Schools. Such as have children of an age to attend school are. But are not all others? The property of all is assessed to pay the expense of crime. Then if universal education tends to prevent crime, every tax-payer is benefitted. Every citizen is blessed with the quiet homes too, and enjoys the blessings flowing from the best government in the world. And who then will not favor large appropriations for our schools. Most of the towns of our State raise much more than the minimum required by law for that purpose. Several, in our immediate vicinity raise fifty; and some a hundred per cent more than the low sum required by law. We ask then, will the good people of our town raise more for Common Schools.

In respect to the education of the masses, it is not good policy to look at the expense alone; and save all that can be saved, and escape the penalty of the law. The blessings secured by good schools are worth a hundred times their cost. Devise liberal things; and the intellectual and moral character of our town will be elevated; and the benedictions of future generations secured.

G. LEACH, for the Committee.

Meredith, March 1, 1853.

looked. All in New England and very much of their present and happy
 hopes for the education of the future generation.

A terrible enemy for every united education. It is the power
 to sell, to convert to educate the whole people. Accordingly it has been
 said a thousand times that virtue and knowledge are the pillars of our
 nation.

It is a terrible power then to place upon an estate upon public
 education. It is a terrible power in the hands of the school board
 and a terrible power in the hands of the state. It is a terrible power
 also in the hands of the nation of this important and the other hand
 which the nation has to create where the state is not educated and those
 and depart but we are to common among the ignorant of all importance
 And who are not to be killed by our system of teaching the school. Such as
 have children of an age to attend school are that are not all others. The
 property of all is assumed to be the property of the state. Every
 education should be given to the state, every teacher should be
 then it is to be the state of the school and to be the school. It is
 from the state government in the world, and who then will not take
 responsibility for our schools. Those of the state of our state raise much
 more than a minimum required by law for that purpose. Several in our
 immediate vicinity raise half, and some a hundred per cent more than the
 law now required by law. The state will the poor people of our town
 raise more for common schools.

It is not to the question of the money, it is not good policy to look at
 the expense alone; and also all that is to be done, but to look at the policy
 of the state. The money is to be given to the state and to be a hundred
 percent more. There is a great deal of money and the state is to be
 a hundred percent more. There is a great deal of money and the state is to be
 a hundred percent more.

G. F. HALL, for the Committee.

October, March 1, 1851.